

Please amend claims 15, 16, and 17 as follows:

Claim 15, Line 1, please change "includes" to --including--.

Claim 16, Line 4, please change "LED'S" to --LEDs--.

Claim 17, Lines 3, 6, 7 and 9, please change "LED'S" to --LEDs--.

Please cancel claims 20-38 and add claims 39-57 as follows:

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1 39. An optical reader for reading indicia, said optical
2 reader comprising:
3 a housing; and
4 an imaging module disposed in said housing, said imaging
5 module including
6 a frame;
7 a circuit board mounted to said frame;
8 an image sensor carried by said circuit board; and
9 at least one illumination light source for illuminating
10 a target area outside of said housing.

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1 40. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said at least
2 one illumination light source is mounted to said circuit
3 board, whereby said circuit board carries both of said image
4 sensor and said at least one illumination light source.

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1 41. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said imaging
2 module further includes at least one aiming light source, and
3 wherein said at least one illumination light source and said
4 at least one aiming light source are each mounted to said
5 circuit board, whereby said circuit board carries each of said
6 image sensor, said at least one illumination light source and
7 said at least one aiming light source.

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1 42. The optical reader of claim 39, further comprising at
2 least one planar optical component and wherein said frame
3 comprises sidewalls having resilient fingers formed therein
4 for receiving and securing said optical component in said
5 frame in a stationary position in said frame without use of
6 adhesives or any additional mechanical securing apparatuses or
7 agents.

1 43. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said circuit
2 board carries essentially all image sensor signal processing
3 circuitry, image capture circuitry, and decoding and or
4 recognizing circuitry of an optical reader in which said
5 module is to be installed.

1 44. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said image
2 sensor is a 2D image sensor and wherein said module further
3 includes at least one aiming light source and associated
4 optics for projecting a solitary horizontal line aiming
5 pattern in a target area.

1 45. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 defines top and side sidewalls of said module, and wherein
3 said sidewalls and said circuit board define a cubic
4 rectangular configuration.

1 46. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes substantially rigid top and side sidewalls defining a
3 partially enclosed contained area, and wherein said at least
4 one illumination source is disposed inside said contained
5 area, whereby said at least one illumination source is
6 structurally protected by said frame.

Q2 1 47. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes substantially rigid top and side sidewalls defining a
3 partially enclosed contained area, and wherein said at least
4 one illumination source and said image sensor are disposed
5 inside said contained area, whereby said at least one
6 illumination source and said image sensor are structurally
7 protected by said frame.

1 48. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes substantially rigid top and side sidewalls, and
3 wherein a combination of said circuit board and said top and
4 side sidewalls defines a partially enclosed contained area,
5 and wherein said at least one illumination source is disposed
6 inside said contained area, whereby said at least one
7 illumination source is structurally protected by a combination
8 of said circuit board and said frame.

1 49. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes substantially rigid top and side sidewalls and
3 wherein a combination of said circuit board and said top and
4 side sidewalls defines a partially enclosed contained area,
5 and wherein said at least one illumination source and said
6 image sensor are disposed inside said contained area, whereby
7 said at least one illumination source and said image sensor
8 are structurally protected by a combination of said circuit
9 board and said frame.

1 50. The optical reader of claim 48 wherein essentially an
2 entirety of illumination sources of said module are
3 incorporated in said contained area.

1 51. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes a back plate having a center recess for receiving and
3 aligning said image sensor.

1 52. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes a back plate having a center recess for receiving and
3 aligning said image sensor and at least one side recess for
4 accommodating electrical components extending forwardly of
5 said circuit board.

1 53. The optical reader of claim 39, further including a
2 pair of aiming light sources, and an aperture plate having a
3 pair of apertured domes disposed over said light sources for
4 shaping light emanating from said aiming light sources.

1 54. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said frame
2 includes a back plate, and wherein said at least one
3 illumination source further includes illumination and aiming
4 LEDs having leads extending through said back plate and being
5 electrically connected to said circuit board.

1 55. The optical reader of claim 39, wherein said at least
2 one illumination source further includes illumination and
3 aiming LEDs being electrically connected to said circuit
4 board, and wherein said module further comprises:
5 an aperture plate including domes having slit apertures
6 for shaping light emanating from said aiming LEDs being fit
7 over said aiming LEDs; and
8 a diffuser plate including optics for diffusing light
9 emanating from said illumination LEDs being positioned in said
10 optical reader forward of said aperture plate.

1 56. The optical reader of claim 55, further including
2 means adapting said diffuser plate to be snap-fit onto said
3 frame.

1 57. The optical reader of claim 55, further comprising:
2 means adapting said diffuser plate to be snap-fit onto
3 said frame; and
4 means adapting said aperture plate to be biased toward
5 said back plate when said diffuser plate is snap-fit onto said
6 frame.

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